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people, intent upon self government, and as it was printed at Philadelphia, it is probable that no printer in New-England could be found to publish it.

FOR THE NORTH-AMERICAN JOURNAL.

An Embassy sent to the Pope, from the University of Heidelberg. Extract from a letter.

IN the year 1622, when the war of the reformation was raging in Germany, the Bavarians came to Heidelberg, and thinking it a great shame the hereticks should remain in the possession of so many fine MSS, they took them all very quietly away, and soon after to prevent all such accidents for the future, made a formal present of them to his holiness at Rome. There they have ever since remained on the shelves of the Vatican, and have served to fill many a bitter page of the travels of the German men of letters who have visited Rome. At length, in this day of universal reckoning and restitution, the professors, &c. at Heidelberg, thought they ought to come in for their portion of justice, and sent one of their members, not so much to claim the MSS as stolen goods, as to appeal to the Pope's generosity and gratitude, and move him by persuasion, to return them. The ambassador was very kindly received, and the Pope summoned his council to consider the claim; in which it is understood he personally favoured it. The decision however, was, that all the MSS relating to Germany, particularly its antiquities, history, literature, &c. should be returned, without inquiry into the question of right, but as a testimony of the gratitude of the Pope, for his obligation to the German nation, in what they had done to restore him to his prerogatives; and that the Latin and Greek MSS, &c. should remain, as he considered them the property of the world, rather than of any individual people. This does not appear to be unsatisfactory to the corporation who sent the embassy. They have recovered by it, about one thousand very curious and precious documents for their early history and literature; and though

they would have been no less pleased to have recovered the two thousand five hundred Classical MSS they had lost, yet they are not disposed to complain.

FOR THE NORTH-AMERICAN JOURNAL.

Anecdote of Mrs. Siddons, from Holcroft's Memoirs.

THE company of which old Mr. Kemble was the manager, was more respectable than many other companies of strolling players; but it was not in so flourishing a condition as to place the manager beyond the reach of the immediate smiles or frowns of fortune; of this, the following anecdote may be cited as an instance.

A benefit had been fixed for some of the family, in which Miss Kemble, then a little girl, was to come forward in some part, as a juvenile prodigy. The taste of the audience was not, it seems, so accommodating, as in the present day, and the extreme youth of the performer, disposed the gallery to noise and uproar, instead of admiration. Their turbulent dissatisfaction quite disconcerted the child, and she was returning bashfully from the stage, when her mother, who was a woman of a high spirit, and alarmed for the success of her little actress, came forward, and leading the child to the front of the house, made her repeat the fable of the boys and the frogs, which entirely turned the tide of popular opinion in her favour. What must have been the feelings of the same mother, when this child (afterwards Mrs. Siddons,) became the admiration of the whole kingdom, the first seeing of whom was an event in every persons life, never to be forgotten!

Mrs. Siddons made her first appearance on the London stage, about the year 1778.

FOR THE NORTH-AMERICAN JOURNAL.

[Among the small number of native South-Americans, who have been able to surmount the combined obstacles of